working of indirect tax administration. Concrete steps will be adopted through legislative measures approved by the Parliament.

Measures to Step up Steel Production

231. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state what special measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken to step up the production of steel in the country during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): Efforts are being made to ensure adequate availability of inputs and of the right qualities so that the SAIL steel plants may increase their production over the previous year. In fact, during April—October, 1985, they have been able to increase production of saleable steel by 17 per cent over the corresponding period of last year. Efforts are also being made to maintain cordial industrial relations and to inculcate a new work culture, adhere to technological parameters, better maintenance and to improve productivity.

Steps have also been taken to ensure adequate availability of raw materials for the mini steel plants and re-rollers to enable them to increase their production over the last year.

Package tours

232. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state what special measures Government propose to take to promote package tours during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): At the suggestion of the Department of Tourism, India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) is marketing the following special package tours:

(1) Ashok Youth Package at Rs. 25 per day.

(2) Ashok Group's Senior Citizens Weekend Package tour at Rs. 25 per day.

(3) Ashow Groups Weekend Getaway Package at Rs. 50 per day.

Vayudoot has also designed a number of holiday package tours to suit to the needs of students and other groups also.

In a recent State Tourism Ministers' meeting, State Tourism Corporations were requested to work out package tours for tourist spots within their jurisdiction. These could be inter-linked with package tours available in other States. The State Governments have been requested to make bilateral agreements under which tourists from different States would be received in other States. Some of the States have already operated certain packages successfully.

Amendment of Payment of Bonus Act, 1965

233. SHRI S. W. DHABE:

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 so as to raise the ceiling limit of salary from Rs. 1600 per mensem to Rs. 2500 per mensem; and

(b) if so, by when Government are likely to take necessary steps in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) and (b) President has promulgated the Payment of Bonus (2nd Amendment) Ordinance, 1985 on the 7th November, 1985 raising the ceiling limit of salary for eligibility to bonus from Rs. 1600 per mensem to Rs. 2500 per mensem. There will, however, be a computation ceiling of Rs. 1600 for calculation of bonus to employees drawing wage/salary